

This listing replaces all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A process for controlling a multiple core expander comprising:

using a test port of said multiple core expander to send receive operational codes including a dummy bit from a host computer into a multi-bit shift register and a single bit shift register to said multiple core expander to put all but one core expander of said multiple core expander in bypass mode;

decoding the operational input codes by a state machine of the core expander not placed in bypass mode;

serially reading data from, and serially writing data to, at least one internal register of said one core expander not placed in bypass mode through said test port by the state machine; and

the state machine inputting a control signal to a multiplexer to shift data to the output port of the core expander not placed in bypass mode to either a series connected core expander or back to the host computer.

2. (currently amended) A method of controlling the operation of a dual expander having a first expander core and a second expander cores by reading and writing control bits through a single test port in said dual expander comprising:

placing one of said first expander core and said second expander cores in bypass mode utilizing a single bit shift register;

transmitting a serial data stream of said control bits through said test port to a shift register to generate a control byte for the expander core that is not in bypass mode;

parallel shifting said control byte from said shift register to a control single bit shift register in one of said first expander core and said second expander cores that is not in bypass mode;

providing dummy bits ~~as needed~~ in said serial data stream to correctly form said control byte for the expander core that is not in bypass mode.

3. (currently amended) A process for performing a register write operation in a first expander core of a dual expander comprising:

serially shifting operational code bits into a test port, said operational code bits including instructions with a dummy bit from a host computer into a multi-bit shift register and a single bit shift register to place a the second expander core, in said dual expander, in bypass mode;

generating an operational byte from said operational code bits;

placing said second expander core in bypass mode in response to said operational byte;

~~shifting a dummy bit into said test port;~~

serially shifting control bits, address bits and write command bits into said test port;

reading the serially shifted control bits, address bits and write command bits by a state machine;

generating a control byte by the state machine from said control bits and an address byte from said address bits;

writing said control byte by the state machine to a register in said first expander core at an address indicated by said address byte.

4. (currently amended) A process for performing a register write operation in a second expander core of a dual expander comprising:

serially shifting operational code bits into a test port of said dual expander, said operational code bits including instructions with a dummy bit from a host computer into a multi-bit shift register and a single bit shift register to place a the first expander core, in said dual expander, in bypass mode utilizing a single bit shift register;

generating an operational byte from said operational code bits;

placing said first expander core in bypass mode in response to said operational byte;

shifting control bits, address bits and write command bits into said test port;

shifting a dummy bit into said test port;

reading the serially shifted control bits, address bits and write command bits by a state machine;

generating a control byte by the state machine from said control bits and an address byte from said address bits;

writing said control byte by the state machine to a register in said second expander core at an address indicated by said address byte.

5. (currently amended) A process for performing a register read operation from a first expander core of a dual expander comprising:

serially shifting operational code bits into a test port of said dual expander, said operational code bits including instructions with a dummy bit from a host computer into a multi-bit shift register and a single bit shift register to place a the second expander, in said dual expander, in bypass mode;

generating an operational byte from said operational code bits;

placing said second expander core in bypass mode in response to said operational byte;

shifting a dummy bit into said test port of said dual expander;

serially shifting read address bits and a read command into said test port of said dual expander;

generating an address byte by a state machine from said read address bits;

serially reading data by a state machine from a register in said first expander core at an address indicated by said address byte through said test port of said dual expander.

6. (currently amended) A process for performing a register read operation from a second expander core of a dual expander comprising:
  - serially shifting operational code bits into a test port of said dual expander, said operational code bits including instructions with a dummy bit from a host computer into a multi-bit shift register and a single bit shift register to place a the first expander, in said dual expander, in bypass mode;
  - generating an operational byte from said operational code bits;
  - placing said first expander core in bypass mode in response to said operational byte;
  - serially shifting read address bits and a read command into a test port of said dual expander;
  - ~~shifting a dummy bit into said test port of said dual expander;~~
  - generating a read address byte by a state machine from said read address bits;
  - serially reading data by a state machine from a register in said second expander core at an address indicated by said address byte through said test port of said dual expander.